

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Creators of Vietnam War Plan Return to 1963

Nov. 6 (NSIPS) — The architects of the Vietnam war, now set to be reinstated in the White House as the “advisors” of Jimmy Carter, are turning their eyes back to Southeast Asia. These old “Kennedy hands,” never having accepted their defeat at the hands of the Vietnamese, have launched a drive to turn the region back into the anti-Communist bastion it was in the early 1960s. The forces of peace and regional cooperation are being swept aside or threatened with overthrow to be replaced by regimes eager to again serve the objectives of war against Vietnam and its allies in every country in Southeast Asia surrounding the socialist states of Indochina.

These moves were set in motion with the brutal Oct. 6 military coup in Thailand, a springboard for the destabilization of nationalist and pro-peace elements in Malaysia and Indonesia even before Carter's fraudulent election victory this week. Their aim is to turn the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN — Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines) into an anti-communist watchdog, the political bulwark against Vietnam that it was intended to be. With ASEAN once again a pro-U.S. military alliance, plans to turn the Indian Ocean into a NATO lake will proceed apace.

Following the Vietnamese victory last year, ASEAN moved toward regional detente with the communist Indochinese states, a policy based upon economic cooperation and development. The Vietnamese, while seeking peaceful cooperation with the non-communist countries in the region, have emphatically made clear they will neither tolerate fascist neighbors nor cooperate with an anti-communist and pro-U.S. ASEAN.

The criminal conspirators now manipulating Southeast Asia toward regional war include Dean Rusk, former Secretary of State under Kennedy and Johnson, and now member of the war-mongering Committee on the Present Danger; George Ball, Rusk's undersecretary; Robert McNamara, Secretary of Defense for Kennedy and Johnson and current World Bank president; and Averell Harriman, the Democratic Party patrician who was linked to the State Department during the Kennedy-Johnson years.

This line-up was responsible for the 1965 overthrow of the leftist Sukarno regime in Indonesia, an atrocity accompanied by the massacre of a million Indonesian communists. Throughout the 1960s they ran the secret war in Laos which led to the escalation of the genocidal Vietnamese War in which tens of thousands of American soldiers lost their lives. Indochina, yet to recover from the ravages of the last decade, is now being prepared for destruction.

Policeman of the Region: Japan

The ultra right-wing factions that coordinated Japan's role as a rear base for U.S. operations during the Vietnam war are now escalating their drive to oust Prime Minister Takeo Miki and regain the upper hand. Deputy Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, a direct political descendent of former right-wing Prime Ministers Kishi and Sato, resigned from the government two days ago in an open split with Miki just one month before scheduled general elections. Fukuda has been nominated by sections of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to succeed Miki, who has been targeted for ouster because of his efforts to integrate Japan into a peace and development alliance with the countries of Southeast Asia.

Michita Sokata, chief of Japan's Defense Agency has joined Fukuda's drive to rearm Japan and turn the country into the

“policeman” of the region. A close associate of Carter advisor and former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger, Sakata just pushed through a complete revision of Japanese defense policy which calls for major additional defense expenditures into expansion of new modern weapons systems and the creation of a small but highly modernized personnel force capable of rapid expansion under “emergency conditions.” This shift defines Japanese “defense” as integrated with, but totally subordinate to U.S. war deployments against the Soviet Union in the Far East. This dangerous stance is further being forced onto the Japanese by Carter's threats to pull U.S. troops out of Korea, troops which previously played this role.

With the Oct. 6 Thai military coup bringing to power the CIA's trusted military lackies, Thailand is set as the flashpoint for a third Indochinese War. Lewis Simons, the CIA-linked Washington Post correspondent in the region, this week reported Vietnam-style pacification operations throughout Thailand's Northeast Provinces. The northeast insurgency poses no threat to the fascist military leaders in Bangkok, and the operations are designed to provoke neighboring Laos and Vietnam. Similarly, 100 Vietnamese were placed under arrest this week in Nong Khai province bordering Laos along the Mekong River. Nong Khai is filled with CIA-trained border police, special forces units and troops of the Thai Army's 3rd division, all stationed near the border crossing to Laos.

Indian Ocean Hotspot

The Soviets have meanwhile denounced provocative British and Australian naval operations in the Indian Ocean. Writing in the Soviet government news daily Izvestia commentator V. Skorsyrev charges Britain, a “former Southeast Asian colonial power,” with playing “the role of junior partner of the U.S.” Skorsyrev scores Australian Prime Minister Frazer for trying to organize ASEAN countries as “advocates of the Pentagon” in the “struggle against liberation movements.” He cites a recent statement by prominent Indonesian leader and former foreign minister Ahmed Subardjo, opposing U.S. expansion of their base at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean.

Indonesian opposition to U.S. deployments in the Indian ocean and support for regional detente policies between non-communist Southeast Asia and communist Indochina has made the country the target of heavy destabilization operations. Morgan Guarantee Trust Co. last week informed Indonesia's foreign creditors that it may be in technical default on \$850 million worth of foreign loans. The allegation was supposedly due to court cases against Pertamina, the state oil and gas company by tanker companies which claim Pertamina had reneged payment on \$16 million for several tanker charter deals. Yesterday's Wall Street Journal admits that though the banks are taking no action, a \$75 million loan request for an oil refinery project is already being turned down by foreign banks.

This threatened credit cutoff is recreating the crisis conditions that led to the overthrow of the Sukarno regime in 1965. Moreover, the right-wing generals who overthrew Sukarno and led the slaughter of Communist Party cadre are now spreading discontent throughout the officer corps of President Suharto's military-backed regime. It is rumored that several generals have already been interrogated and put under arrest.

Weeks after an unsuccessful coup attempt in September 1975, the government announced the arrest of several Moslem students on charges of plotting the assassination of Suharto, his

wife and Indonesia's security chief, Admiral Sudomo. A prominent Islamic leader who was linked to the September coup plot is now attacking the government for arresting the student ringleader on the sacred grounds of a Mosque — a standard operation to stir up anti-government racial unrest.

Malaysia

In Malaysia, Wall Street-allied Lee Kuan Yew, prime minister of Singapore who destroyed the communist-leftist movement in both Singapore and Malaysia in the 1960s, has escalated an anti-communist campaign. Six leading Malaysian intellectuals have been arrested, all of them linked to Prime Minister Hussein Onn's pro-development and nationalist faction. Those

incarcerated include two former deputy ministers, a leader of the Malaysian People's Socialist Party, a senior official of the Malaysian-Chinese Association, and two leaders of the Democratic Action Party. The arrests are linked to the reinstatement of right-wing Malay politician Datuk Harun into the ruling United Malay National Organization (UMNO). Harun was suspended earlier this year by Prime Minister Onn on charges of corruption. As leader of the UMNO youth league, Harun engineered the racial riots between Chinese and ethnic Malays which ripped the country in 1969, and threatened similar maneuvers to force his reinstatement and a reversal of the government's pro-detente policies.

From a 2½ to a 1½ Front War Against the Soviet Union

Nov. 6 (NSIPS) — The war drive of the Atlanticists has been dealt a blow by the recent turn of events in China. What was once a "two-and-a-half front" war strategy against the Soviet Union — a major front in Europe, a major front in China, and half a front somewhere in a Third World "hotspot" — is now reduced to a one-and-a-half front war. The response of the Carter war advisors, led by Defense Secretary-presumptive James Schlesinger, is to rush to close the yawning breach with the Chinese, while simultaneously preparing to place China on the U.S. target list for nuclear attack along side the Soviet Union.

For a decade, the policymakers of Atlanticism have pursued the strategy of an alliance with Maoist China, an alliance directed against their "common enemy," the Soviet Union. The manipulation of the triangular relationship between Moscow, Peking and Washington first emerged into the open as a key aspect of the U.S. conduct of the Vietnam War — where the objective was to neutralize China as an ally of Vietnam. Henry Kissinger escalated this into a central strategic objective of his "detente" war-policy as he hotly courted Chairman Mao in an effort to surround the Soviet Union. The Sino-Soviet border clashes of 1969, finally made the prospects of a "twofront" war against the Soviet Union seem realizable to the Atlanticist war-makers, who could barely contain their subsequent enthusiasm for the aging Chinese Emperor and his anti-Soviet retinue.

This seven-year Atlanticist investment in China died with Mao. Ignoring the reams of paper NATO Sinologists are now expending to explain how Sino-Soviet relations will never be restored, Chinese delegations yesterday attended Soviet-organized celebrations on the 59th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, and, for the first time in five years, stayed until the end without a walkout. In Moscow, this week, Chinese charge d'affaires Wang Ching-ching listened to a speech by Politburo member Kulakov, who said that "It must be said that we consider unjustified and unnatural the fact that friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China have been disrupted, through no fault of our own, for almost fifteen years now." In Peking, China's Deputy Foreign Minister, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, and Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces attended a celebration given by the Soviet Ambassador.

Watch the Tigers Fight

The American Atlanticists have always seen fit to ignore the reality that even under Mao, China's intentions were never to join a war against the Soviet Union, but only to urge on such a conflict and, as Mao put it, retire to the "mountaintop," to "Watch the tigers fight." From the start, the complete incompetence of the Kissinger China alliance has been covered up with the voluminous nonsense churned out by the hired "China-

watchers" which elevated Mao's anti-Soviet policies to the status of Mao's own personality cult — as an immutable product of Chinese culture and history.

Now, with Carter advisor Schlesinger in the forefront, the pro-war clique proposes to extend and redouble that incompetence by offering the Chinese the "concessions" they think the Chinese want to remain loyal to the Atlantic alliance. According to a script first put forward in the fall of 1975 by Rand operative Michael Pillsbury, the Chinese can be manipulated with the offer of both full normalization of relations and sales of military and defense related technology. This is the official policy of all of Carter's China advisors, including former Rand and National Security Council member Allen Whiting, who went so far as to promote this policy even after the purge of the arch Maoist leadership of Chiang Ching (Mao's wife) and friends. Whiting insanely claimed that these anti-Soviet scum were in fact anti-U.S. and their purge represented a Chinese turn to the West!

Schlesinger himself, in an interview with U.S. News and World Report embarrassingly appeared one day before the news of the purge broke into the world press, predicted that the death of Mao would not result in "political turmoil" or any major changes. Asked about the possibility for Sino-Soviet reconciliation, he flatly replied: "I can see no possibility of reconciliation."

There are those among the war advocates who have lost such blind faith. C.L. Sulzburger of the New York Times, in a post-election column Nov. 3, put China and the Soviet Union in one category as possessing a major strategic advantage over the U.S. in their capability to survive a nuclear war. China has now passed from being part of the second front against the Soviet Union to becoming a target for American nuclear attack.

Even though the Atlanticists are undeterred by the events in China in their mad drive for war against the Soviet Union, these developments cannot fail to have their impact. In at least one key area, the Far East and principally Japan, the shift in China threatens to collapse a pillar of the Dollar Empire. While Japan is wracked with a bitter battle between the loyalists of the U.S. alliance and those favoring an independent policy, the Japanese are quickly figuring out for themselves that with China on the road to normalized relations with the Soviet Union, Japan has even less to gain from playing the role of a "forward defense" area for a U.S. war against the Soviet Union.

While the Carter advisors will make every effort to bring China back into the fold, their failure to do so is unalterable. Given their insane commitment to go ahead to war, even one front less, this reality may in fact spur them on to act more quickly to promote war before more pieces of their war-front disintegrate before their eyes.